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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION SR-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ADS-00 IO-14 RP-10 HA-05 AIO-07  
ICAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00  
/084 W

-----098766 041127Z /21

O 041015Z FEB 80  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6745  
INFO RUFGV/USUN GENEVA 1175  
AMCONSUL KARACHI

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 0970

FROM AMBASSADOR LOY TO S/R AMBASSADOR PALMIERI

E.O. 12065: ADS 12/31/80 (KING, B) OR-M  
TAGS: SREF, PK  
SUBJECT: AFGHAN REFUGEES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDG/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>[Signature]</u>	DATE <u>2/1/80</u>
RDS <input type="checkbox"/> or XDS <input type="checkbox"/> EXT. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. WE HAVE NOW SPENT THREE DAYS WITH GOP OFFICIALS, UN OFFICIALS AND VISITING THREE CAMPS IN NORTHWEST FRONTIER PROVINCE, TWO OF WHICH ARE NEAR PSHAWAR AND ONE WEST OF MIRAMSHER QUITE NEAR THE AFGHANISTAN BORDER. TODAY WE GO ON TO BALUCHISTAN.

3. WE CAN NOW DRAW SOME TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS, THOUGH SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS REMAIN UNANSWERED, AND ALL CONCLUSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION BASED ON OUR BALUCHISTAN VISIT.

4. REFUGEES GENERALLY (1) ARE SUFFERING FROM INADEQUATE SHELTER AND OTHER PROTECTION FROM COLD AND RAIN; (2) HAVE A DIET THAT HAS AVOIDED FAMINE AND ACUTE MALNUTRITION BUT IS INADEQUATE ENOUGH TO PRESENT POTENTIALLY SEVERE

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HEALTH PROBLEMS TO A REFUGEE POPULATION WEAKENED BY WINTER

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TRAVEL; (C) EXPRESS GRATITUDE AND GOOD FEELINGS FOR GOP AND FELLOW TRIBESMEN WHO HAVE AIDED THEM; (4) ARE FILLED WITH HATRED FOR SOVIET INVADERS AND EXPRESS DESIRE FOR GUNS TO PERMIT THEM TO RETURN.

5. PRINCIPAL THING THAT HAS PREVENTED WIDE-SCALE DISASTER AMONG REFUGEES HAS BEEN THE ATTITUDE OF THEIR FELLOW-TRIBESMEN ON THIS SIDE OF BORDER WHO HELP THEM GENERALLY, TOGETHER WITH GENERAL TOUGHNESS AND SELF RELIANCE OF THE REFUGEE POPULATION (HOWEVER, THIS TRIBAL GOODWILL MAY WEAR THIN WITH TIME). THE GOPEFFORT HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY ENORMOUS GOODWILL, AND HAS SUCCESSFULLY DISTRIBUTED SOME RELIEF COMMODITIES AND MONEY, BUT THE REAL AMOUNT OF SUCH RELIEF THAT HAS REACHED REFUGEES IS UNCLEAR.

6. THE ORGANIZED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS HAD LESS IMPACT TO DATE THAN THAT PROVIDED BY THE REFUGEES THEMSELVES AND THEIR KINSMEN. HOWEVER IT HAS DISTRIBUTED SOME TENTS, BLANKETS AND MONEY. THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN AREAS WE VISITED JUST BEGAN WEEK OF JANUARY 14 OR HAS NOT YET BEGUN. IF IN FACT IT DOESN'T GEAR UP FULLY, WE HAVE A FULL SCALE DISASTER FACING US.

7. REASON FOR ABOVE IS INEXCUSABLE SLOWNESS OF UNHCR MECHANISM TO FILL PIPELINE (WHICH PROBLEM OUGHT TO BE BEHIND US) AND GOP BUREAUCRATIC PROBLEMS (WHICH WILL REMAIN WITH US). UNHCR HAS YET TO HAVE ANY PERSONNEL STATIONED IN THE FIELD LOCATIONS OF PESHAWAR AND QUETTA.

8. WE INTEND TO ADDRESS BOTH PROBLEMS WHILE WE ARE HERE -- AND AFTERWARDS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE WE NEED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO COMPLETE OUR ASSISTANCE PACKAGE (I.E. ALLOCATE THE  
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REMAINING IN-KIND MONEYS FOR EMERGENCY FUND). URGENCY STEMS FROM NEED (PARTICULARLY FOR SHELTER AND MEDICINE) TO AVOID DEATH AND DEPRIVATION, AND THE DESIRE TO AVOID CRITICISM AND RECRIMINATIONS ABOUT TARDY INTERNATIONAL AID THAT WOULD OCCUR IF REFUGEE LOT WORSENS. HEALTH PROBLEMS AND INCREASED MORTALITY RATE ARE CLEARLY AROUND CORNER.

9. WE ARE EXPLORING FOUR SPECIFIC USES OF REMAINING FUNDS:  
(1) TENTS

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- (2) MEDICINES TO BE DISTRIBUTED THRU DISPENSARIES
- (3) FUNDING ALL OR PART OF SIX MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS PROPOSED IN LICROSS APPEAL.
- (4) MORE BLANKETS.

10. WE MAY WELL DECIDE TO MAKE SOME COMMITMENTS, UP TO FULL 1.5 MILLION, WHEN I GET BACK TO ISLAMABAD ON FEBRUARY 6.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: IF DEPT HAS ANY VIEWS ON ABOVE ASSISTANCE IN KIND OR ANY QUESTION ABOUT COMMITTING REMAINING FUNDS, PLEASE ADVISE BY COB FEB 5.

12. FOR GENEVA: AM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DONOR RESPONSE TO THE ICRC/LICROSS MOBILE UNITS AND HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE LICROSS/ICRC TO GET THE MOBILE TEAMS ON GROUND. IN THIS REGARD, WE WILL BE TALKING TO LICROSS REP. HERE BUT WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PURSUING THIS ON YOUR END.  
HUMMEL

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